

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

17. (Currently Amended)) A method of making an electrochemical cell, comprising

constructing an electrochemical cell including a housing having an interior surface and, within the housing, (1) a conductive layer of a carbonaceous material in contact with the interior surface of the housing; ([1])2) a cathode in contact with the conductive layer and comprising manganese dioxide and at most 10% by weight graphite particles having an average particle size of less than 20 microns that were prepared without using an industrial or laboratory graphitization process and without any industrial or laboratory expansion process; ([2])3) an anode inside the cathode comprising zinc particles and a gassing inhibitor selected from the group consisting of bismuth, tin, and indium; ([3])4) a separator disposed between, and in contact with, the cathode and the anode; ([and]) ([4])5) an alkaline electrolytic solution; and (6) a current collector centrally located in the cell in contact with the anode.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the graphite particles have an average particle size of less than about 12 microns.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the graphite particles have an average size of from about 2 microns to about 12 microns.

20. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the graphite particles have an average size of from about 5 microns to about 9 microns.

21. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the separator comprises a first nonwoven, non-membrane material and a second nonwoven, non-membrane material disposed along a surface of the first nonwoven, non-membrane material.

22. (Original) the method of claim 17, wherein the cathode has a porosity of from about 24% to about 28%.

23. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the anode has a porosity of from about 2 grams of zinc particles to about 2.45 grams of zinc particles per cubic centimeter of anode volume.

24. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein a weight ratio of the manganese dioxide to the electrolytic solution is from about 2.4 to about 2.9.

25. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the weight ratio of the zinc particles to the electrolytic solution is from about 0.9 to about 1.25.

26. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the cathode further comprises a binder.